

## The Sun.

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## The Candidate's Last Trick.

He tried imperialism and found there was nothing in it.  
 He tried lambasting the Trusts and found there was nothing in it.  
 He tried denying that prosperity existed and asserting that if it did, it was on the wane, and neither his denial nor his assertion worked.

He tried the whole platform and special parts of it, and neither parts nor whole would work.

He tried ABSTAIN, but the young man would not be scared. He tried the commercial traveler, but the young man was too busy to be bothered.

He tried the farmer, but the young man had too much money in the bank.

He tried issues paramount and subordinate, and there was nothing in them. He tried militarism in a general way, and nobody was frightened. At last at Indianapolis, where he delivered his labored essay on imperialism, he sank to the depth of saying that the Republicans want a standing army "so that they can build a fort near every large city and use the army to suppress by force the discontent that ought to be cured by remedial legislation."

We don't believe that there is in the country one laboring man so much of an idiot as to swallow such an assertion. It marks the desperate and demoralized condition of those gull-catching tricks and high pretensions have failed; and in the final days of his business struggle reverts to his real self and returns to his essential principle and method; the belief and practice that ignorance, envy and "class" hatred are the ruling forces in the American electorate.

## The German and French Proposals.

We suppose that nobody is now willing to underrate the wisdom of the position taken by our State Department with reference to the Chinese problem. The first recognition of the common sense, moderation and sense of equity exhibited by our Government came from the Chinese imperial authorities, who did precisely what, as we said, they should have done. They brought to justice the parties chiefly responsible for the "Boxer" outrages. If anything further was needed to attest the reasonableness of our attitude, it is furnished in the memoranda which have just been submitted to our Secretary of State by the representatives of Germany and France. It will be observed that they accept what has been done in pursuance of our advice as a long step toward the solution of an extremely difficult question. As to the supplementary measures which they propose, some obviously ought to be adopted, while others, upon close inspection, will probably seem inadmissible.

Indisputably, all the treaty Powers will acknowledge the expediency of pressing upon the Chinese imperial authorities the inquiries suggested in the memorandum submitted the other day to our State Department by Baron von STRASSBURG, the German Charge d'Affaires. These inquiries are: First, is the list contained in the edict of the Emperor KWANG-SU regarding the persons to be punished satisfactory and correct? In other words, does it name the real instigators of the outrages, and does it name all of them? Secondly, are the proposed punishments commensurate with the gravity of the crimes committed? This means that all of the guilty parties must be condemned to death, with the possible exception of Prince Tuan, who, as the father of the war, is invited to China to see the emperor, and to be treated with respect, and to be given a pension, and to be given a title, and to be given a rank, and to be given a salary, and to be given a house, and to be given a garden, and to be given a park, and to be given a lake, and to be given a mountain, and to be given a river, and to be given a sea, and to be given a world.

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free communication between Pekin and the seaboard. Of course, communication will be unobstructed so long as the reigning family is friendly, and not an hour longer. But, after the severe lesson which has been just administered, we may assume that friendliness will continue at least forty years, which is the period that has elapsed since Pekin was previously captured in 1860.

The same thing may be said about guarantees against a renewal of the anti-foreign outbreaks. Material guarantees we cannot have, unless we are insistent in declaring ourselves opposed to any further dismemberment of China, or to the reduction of that country to the condition of Egypt. Moral guarantees alone can be obtained, and these will consist of promises which will be kept until the individuals in power shall have forgotten the lesson to which the Emperor KWANG-SU and the Empress Regent have been subjected.

The most difficult question raised by the French memorandum is that which relates to the payment of pecuniary indemnities to the treaty Powers. It is by their treatment of this question that the various foreign countries interested will betray their real intentions with regard to the Middle Kingdom. If they honestly desire to maintain China's territorial integrity and administrative entity under a Manchu sovereignty, they will not impose on her a burden which will hamper her present financial resources, and which will be unable to bear. But, after we believe that our State Department will demonstrate its sincerity, and that most of the treaty Powers will rally to its support.

## Two Lawyers on a Title.

On a question of title, whether valid or unsound, there are few responsible citizens of the United States who will not prefer the opinion of GEORGE F. EDMUNDS to that of WILLIAM J. BRYAN. Both gentlemen are lawyers, but the profession of Mr. EDMUNDS is not yet so wisely recognized that there is a hot chase after him as a legal adviser in matters where large interests are involved.

Mr. BRYAN has been travelling through the West pronouncing defective this nation's title to the Philippine Islands. In one of his speeches at Omaha he said:

"If a Republican says that the Philippine Islands belong to us, ask him how we got them. Demand of him an abstract of title to the Philippines and he cannot even show a claim derived from anybody who ever had any authority to give it."

Mr. EDMUNDS' opinion on the same question of title is equally brief, but it differs considerably from Mr. BRYAN'S. Mr. EDMUNDS says:

"The Philippine Islands belong to the United States by title of international law. They are ours, we bought them and paid for them, and the inhabitants of those islands are citizens or subjects of the United States just as surely as we and I are."

The title which Mr. EDMUNDS declares to be sound and valid, and Mr. BRYAN declares to be worthless in law, was conveyed to the United States from Spain by treaty.

It is worth remembering, in considering these two conflicting opinions, that while Mr. EDMUNDS had nothing to do with that treaty, Mr. BRYAN, as he himself has admitted, labored arduously with the Democrats of the Senate for its ratification, and is personally responsible for the completion of the transaction.

And now he is laboring vociferously to persuade Democrats that this title of his own making is fraudulent!

## Indications of McKinley's Election.

The Bryanite headquarters, in putting out specific "claims" of an overwhelming majority of the Electoral votes for BRYAN, may express the honest feeling, or, at least, hope, which actually sustains the spirits of the candidate and his managers in this canvass. At about the same period in the campaign of 1896 Mr. DANFORTH, then the Bryanite chief manager, was equally confident of triumph, and the enthusiasm maintained by Bryan up to the very day of the election could not be called assumed. He had addressed great crowds throughout the Union, and, as usually happens with notable candidates for elective office, he became the more sanguine as his campaign proceeded, for to his view was presented only the favorable side, thronged meetings everywhere and tumultuous applause by his adherents.

It must be remembered that in this country political parties are so evenly divided that the most "sweeping" national triumphs are won only by a small percentage of the aggregate of votes polled. In 1896, BRYAN got less than two-fifths of the Electoral votes, yet of the aggregate popular poll for all candidates, Mr. McKINLEY received a majority of only a little over 2 per cent., and his majority over BRYAN alone was less than 5 per cent. So narrow a margin, of course, is beyond detailed calculation in advance by the most astute and best informed of campaign managers of either party. Its assurance is generally apprehensible only by a view which takes in the prevailing sentiment in the part of the community which has decided the elections, more particularly as it is manifested in States where it can be discovered most certainly.

In 1896 the gravest anxiety as to the result of the election prevailed in New York, and it is not exaggeration to say that men of property and business were pallid with fear as the day for the decision approached. They had little or no doubt about the result in this State, however, for the weakness of the Bryan canvass had been made sufficiently manifest, but they had many misgivings about the West and more particularly the middle West. However confident they may have been as to New York, the result surprised them when the McKinley majority in the State was returned as more than a quarter of a million, and even in the city itself, always before the very stronghold of Democracy, it was over two-thirds.

Small as was the margin of the McKinley majority over BRYAN in the Union as a whole, in this State it was more than one-fifth. States of the middle West, as to which there were misgivings here, actually gave him majorities of a much higher percentage than he got of the whole vote of the Union. In Illinois, for instance, more than 13 per cent. against less than 5 per cent. It was demonstrated that the same influences which affected political sentiment in New York extended throughout the Union wherever it had normal expression, except in the silver-producing States, specifically, and in Kansas, which was then still suffering from a spasmodic attack of Populism.

That is, New York proved to be the barometer of the national sentiment. Nor was it unusual in exercising that office. At every Presidential election since 1872 it has been such a barometer, its Electoral

votes always going to the successful candidate. In 1872 to GRANT, in 1876 to TILDEN, in 1880 to GARFIELD, in 1884 to CLEVELAND, in 1888 to HARRISON, in 1892 to CLEVELAND and in 1896 to McKINLEY.

This is not a mere chance, but a strictly logical consequence. It is not merely because New York is the most populous State of the Union, but also because of its close business and financial association with the whole, and because the composition of the American people as they are now, that it affords so unvarying a test of that sentiment in the Nation. The city of New York, too, represents the most unchangeable Democracy, while the outside State represents the most rigid Republicanism. Accordingly, the strength of party feeling in each at any particular time is most accurately tested here. This State passes to and fro between the parties according as, at the moment, either is the stronger in the popular confidence, and as it goes the Union goes. On whichever side of the political scales the business sentiment of New York puts its weight, it may be assumed that that sentiment generally will be put. So even is the party division in this State that the party which commands that confidence at an election is sure to win. The great mass of voters may obey partisan discipline, but the business sentiment, which judges coolly and judicially, is not so easily misled.

Now, how does all this apply to this canvass? Nothing is more obvious than that the sentiment of the business community of New York is now for the gold standard and consequently for Mr. McKINLEY. It is practically unanimous and with it goes the vast preponderance of professional sentiment. That it is representative of such sentiment throughout the Union is not less obvious; and at the South no less than at the North. BRYAN, of course, will carry all the old Confederate States, but whoever is in touch with its business feeling and its superior intelligence knows that they hope for the election of Mr. McKINLEY and the consequent preservation of Southern prosperity. Actually the business sentiment in Richmond, Charleston, Savannah, Atlanta and New Orleans is as strong for the gold standard as in New York, but the negro question prevents its expression at the South.

Moreover, we have another practical test to apply to this election. The States won by the party of the gold standard in 1896 or 1898 have enough Electoral votes to give the triumph to Mr. McKINLEY next November, and they were carried by it at a time, the middle of his term, when the party of an Administration is most likely to suffer defeat, as past experience has proved abundantly. The nomination of BRYAN having again made the overthrow of the gold standard the issue, no other question in this canvass has weight with the intelligence of practical men and the common sense of the voters generally. That was demonstrated by the Maine and Vermont elections. They were carried by gold majorities, which of themselves afforded a test of the general sentiment that has always been sure in the past.

The Bryanites are asserting that the Gold Democrats are now with them; but everybody knows from personal acquaintance and from published expressions by nearly all the more notable Gold Democrats that the great part of them are no less determined in their opposition to BRYAN and Bryanism now than they were in 1896. Such a revolt against a party, in this country of political divisions so close, always means its defeat. It is enough to turn a scale so evenly balanced. Moreover, the Silver Republican revolt of 1896 has ceased almost wholly, so that even in the Silver States where it was then powerful enough to give BRYAN great relative majorities, it will barely be able to save the Electoral votes he got in 1896, even if he were to get no against him. Kansas has completely recovered from its attack of Populism.

Such evidences of the superior strength of Mr. McKINLEY are worth infinitely more than all the "election forecasts," the approximate estimates of majorities, which political managers put out, for they are not guesses, but convincing facts.

## Gems of Democratic Patriotism.

The Hon. FRANK B. BEHR, Democratic candidate for Congress in the Indianapolis district, "takes off his hat to the flag."

The Hon. EDWARD W. CARNAHAN, Democratic Representative in Congress from Tennessee, says that the war in the Philippines is "murder."

The Hon. RICHARD CROKER thinks "it is nothing short of murder to kill those poor devils, who think they are fighting for their freedom."

The Hon. JOHN DE WITT WARNER calls the American soldiers in the Philippines "awashbuckling murderers" and "drunkards, robbers and ravers."

The Democratic party indulged in similar felicitations of language during the Civil War. It has forgotten the lesson it got then. It wants another one. Let patriotic men unite to make this year's lesson so memorable that hereafter no American shall dare to malign his flag and those who carry it at the risk of their lives against the enemies of the United States.

## Commercial Schools.

The School of Commerce, Accounts and Finance, opened last Tuesday by the University of the City of New York, will undoubtedly fill a very useful field, though it does not aim to cover the ground required by a general business education. It is admittedly the outcome of legislative action in this State four years ago, when professional accountants were legally recognized and regulated in their profession. It will give highly specialized training in accounts and finance. In other words, it will be a professional school adapted for the needs of those who desire to pursue thorough courses of study in two or three business specialties.

Commercial training in our schools is becoming one of the largest educational demands of the times and the school now opened will represent only one phase of the advantages to be offered to young men destined for business. How to meet this demand in the broadest educational sense so that students in business courses shall acquire not only the general and technical information that will be helpful in business, but also breadth of view, and a philosophical knowledge of the world of affairs, is the problem that is now engaging many of our leading educators. The fact is fully recognized that business men have come fully to vie with the legal profession as leaders in thought and action in the economic, political and social affairs of the country. It is for this reason that the commercial courses now being established in some of our higher institutions, such as the four

years' course in commerce and industry in the University of Pennsylvania, are designed to be broadly educational as well as technically advantageous.

But most of the youth and young men who, in constantly increasing numbers, are entering upon commercial careers have other and more elementary needs. Many of them are compelled to seek employment while still early in their teens, and educators are endeavoring to give them at least the foundation of sound elementary training in commercial education; others are able to complete the secondary course of training, and we are beginning to hear of commercial high schools, and commercial text books are preparing for high school use. Others are able to give still more years to higher training, and for their advantage more extended courses are being introduced in some of the colleges and universities as the "business course" in the University of California, and the "course in commerce and industry" in the University of Pennsylvania. These three grades of commercial studies are to be supplemented by still more highly technical and specialized schools such as that which has just been opened in the University of the City of New York.

To provide the various classes of business students with these advantages is an obligation the country owes to them. The problem is not a simple one. There are wide differences of opinion as to how much the commercial education should include and what methods should be used in imparting it. Commercial education, in fact, is in the formative period in this country. It has made much more progress in Europe. But it is now commanding the widest attention in our educational centres and its progress bids fair to be commensurate with the remarkable expansion of our commercial and industrial interests.

## The Dedham Dreadful.

Dark clouds encircle what would be the head of the Hon. GEORGE FRED WILLIAMS if he had not a special dispensation of genius permitting him not to wear one. Dedham is white with lightnings and all her windows are shattered. Her mighty one grows and mutters. If the Hon. HENRY CANON LODGE continues to tell the truth about the little demonstration of affluence in New York, the gold standard may be a "sacred" thing, but the negro question prevents its expression at the South.

Moreover, we have another practical test to apply to this election. The States won by the party of the gold standard in 1896 or 1898 have enough Electoral votes to give the triumph to Mr. McKINLEY next November, and they were carried by it at a time, the middle of his term, when the party of an Administration is most likely to suffer defeat, as past experience has proved abundantly. The nomination of BRYAN having again made the overthrow of the gold standard the issue, no other question in this canvass has weight with the intelligence of practical men and the common sense of the voters generally. That was demonstrated by the Maine and Vermont elections. They were carried by gold majorities, which of themselves afforded a test of the general sentiment that has always been sure in the past.

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## McKINLEY ANTI-IMPERIALISTS.

Mr. Ottendorfer's Newspaper Makes Its "Choice of Evils" Wisely.

The Democrats have not succeeded in the attempt, undertaken by their convention, to make imperialism the paramount issue, and to place the other question in the background. Their own candidate has frustrated all efforts in this direction by his letter of acceptance, in which he took a decided stand for free silver courage, and by asserting in numerous speeches that he and his coadjutors have no objection to the financial question since 1896. This means that William J. Bryan is still resolved to use his whole power to destroy the gold standard and to bring about the free and unlimited coinage of silver.

It would have been possible to overlook many of the weaknesses of the Democratic candidate if he had stood firmly upon the ground he took in his speech of acceptance in Indianapolis. But after he has shown, in his formal letter of acceptance and in numerous speeches delivered since then, that he has no intention of doing so, and that he will not learn anything in regard to the financial question, that his ignorance and lack of perception in this direction are ineradicable, he must be considered a dangerous man, and his election would undoubtedly produce a widespread disturbance of present economic conditions, from which hardly anybody would escape and which would subject a large part of the American people to severe suffering.

It is not well to rely too firmly upon the hope that Congress will not contain a majority friendly to silver. The lack of confidence in William J. Bryan's character is so pronounced that his election would not only cause grave economic conditions, but it would also be a blow to the country. His hands were completely tied. But he can do nothing without the assistance of Congress. And we must consider that this election would be interpreted by the politicians as a victory of silver. Politicians and Congressmen who are now opposed to free silver have voted for him before when they thought the majority of the people desired it and they would do so again.

While we earnestly desired an entirely different result and must acknowledge that we are bitterly disappointed, we cannot resist the conclusion that the success of the Republican ticket, while undoubtedly a grave evil, will be the lesser of two evils, and that, therefore, the election of William McKINLEY will be a blessing to the country and a relief to the people.

The Hon. LEONIDAS LIVINGSTON, M. C., formerly of the Farmers' Alliance and still of Georgia, has returned to Washington with mighty men. He tells the Times of that town that "New Jersey will be carried by BRYAN and STRASSBURG with an old-time Democratic majority." It is not so much in 1896 against the 16 to 1 proposition. Referring in 1900 that there is no such thing as a free lunch, I separate the issues as far as possible. And I am heartily in favor of "expansion" and "free silver" for the country and the individual, but am equally opposed to the "Trusts" as harbored under the influence of the Republican Party.

I am sinking in the sea. RICHARD LEGALLIENRE in the Atlantic.

Oh happy, happy sea.  
 Flow fast, oh, flow fast and free;  
 Flow quick, to tide, to tide, to tide;  
 Flow fast, to tide, to tide, to tide.

But Mr. LEGALLIENRE will not be content with sitting by the sea. He will want to sit on it, and what can the sea do then but dry up? He never will.

## Galveston's High Water Record.

From the Galveston Daily News.  
 Mr. Wilcox, assistant engineer in charge of the United States Engineer Corps, in charge of this district, has recorded the tide which caused an invasion of the city by the Gulf on the faithful day of the storm. The tide, which ordinarily rises from two to two and a half feet, registered a maximum of 19 1/2 feet to 14 feet above mean low tide on Saturday, Sept. 8. Engineer Wilcox has been engaged locating a line of level from the Denver reservoir to the Gulf of Mexico, and has been making a series of marks to obtain this information.

Considering that Galveston is from six to ten feet above mean low tide, the idea of the volume of water that inundated the island is furnished in this record. Of course the tide does not take into consideration the high waves and breaking breakers that piled the Gulf waters high in some parts of the city. The storm wave of from four to six feet high, registered a maximum of 19 1/2 feet to 14 feet above mean low tide on Saturday, Sept. 8. Engineer Wilcox has been engaged locating a line of level from the Denver reservoir to the Gulf of Mexico, and has been making a series of marks to obtain this information.

## THE DISHONEST DOLLAR.

The Venerable Son-in-Law of Tharlow Weed Discusses the Real Issue.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: For hundreds of years workmen in financial distress have occasionally resorted to the expedient of debasing or alloying the currency; but this has been resorted to for national and not for individual benefit.

Now, Mr. Bryan proposes to give in gold coin to the silver mine owners and speculators of this country, of Mexico and the whole world substantially a bonus of 100 per centum on the market value of silver. What is this but a proposition for enormous bribe to the silver interest to give him the Presidency of the United States? The people are to bear all the burden and the silver owners are to reap all the benefit. Such a policy would bankrupt the Government and give to the speculators indefinitely of hundreds of millions of dollars. There is no possible way of making fifty cents in silver equal to one dollar in gold. It is as difficult as the invention of perpetual motion or the discovery of the philosopher's stone. No possible way, why does he not advocate a dollar out of a fraction of a dollar. Mr. Bryan's experiment can be summarized in the following equation:

100 = 100.

This is a mathematical absurdity. If the Government pays silver mine owners double the value of the product of their mines, why should not the gold mine owners be paid double the value of their product? This would give one hundred dollars in currency for fifty dollars in gold bullion? This would create a national debt equal to all the gold currency issued from the mints. If silver is received by the United States at about one-fourth its value, Mr. Bryan's proposal is sound, why does he not advocate its reception at one-half or even one-tenth of its market value, thus doubling or quintupling the supposed benefit? If silver is coined at less than its market value, where shall the limit be fixed? The Mexican silver dollar and the Russian silver rouble have been depreciated below par at various percentages at different dates. Shall we follow these examples? What solid and substantial reason is there why silver should be coined at less than its real value any more than gold?

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